Circulation of forged currency through banking channel

1458. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a growing trend in the circulation of forged currency through the banking channel;

(b) if so, whether the Banks are not equipped to identify forged currency; and

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India also receives forged currency through Bank remittances and if so, whether the RBI accepts them for repayment in genuine currency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) RBI have issued instructions to Banks to equip their branches with Ultra Violet Lamps for detection of forged notes and to report to the police authorities in case of detection of counterfeit notes at their branches. Over 85% branches of Banks have installed the same. The currency chest holding Banks have also been advised to instal Note Sorting Machines at all the chests in a time-bound manner latest by November, 2005.

Further, RBI has installed 48 Currency Verification and Processing Systems (CVPS) each having a processing capacity of 50,000 to 60,000 pieces per hour. These machines have capacity to detect forged notes and also to sort notes into non-issuable and re-issuable ones. RBI has advised banks to set up Forged Notes Vigilance Cells at their Head Offices for monitoring and implementation of RBI instructions on forged notes.

Computersation of Bank branches

1459. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:—

(a) whether computerisation and internet services have been provided in all branches of Nationalised Banks and rural Banks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Bank-wise;